

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 05974 241203Z

43

ACTION EPA-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 FEA-02 AID-20 CEQ-02 CIAE-00

COA-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 INR-11 IO-14 L-03 NSF-04

NSC-07 NSAE-00 PM-07 RSC-01 SCI-06 SS-20 SP-03 DRC-01

AGR-20 AEC-11 SPM-01 /176 W

----- 126097

R 240737Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 38

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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BRUSSELS FOR USEC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, SP, TECH

SUBJECT: EPA-SPAIN COOPERATION

REF STATE 155663

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: ACCOMPANIED BY EMBOFF, EPA REPS QUINN, CROWE AND MADANCY HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH GOS (GOVERNMENT OF SPAIN) REPS THIS SUBJECT SEP 16-19. FOUND STRONGEST SPANISH INTEREST TO LIE IN WATER POLLUTION BY INDUSTRIES. MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED INDUSTRY PAPER AND PULP. OTHER INTERESTS EXPRESSED; DESULPHORIZATION BOTH OF OIL AND COAL, ORGANIZATION OF EPA, WRITING OF REGULATIONS, AND THERMAL AND NUCLEAR WASTES. EMBASSY ASSESSMENT: WE HOPE THE LONG TERM PROJECT SET FORTH IN STATE 155663 CAN BE SET UP BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS, TO THE BETTERMENT OF OUR OVERALL RELATIONS. WE THINK THE FIRST STEP SHOULD BE A TRIP TO EPA BY A SMALL NUMBER OF TECHNICALLY QUALIFIED ENGLISH SPEAKING GOS OFFICIALS FOR FAMILIARIZATION WITH EPA AND ATTENDANCE AT POLLUTION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 MADRID 05974 241203Z

CONTROL SEMINAR (PREFERABLY ON PULP AND PAPER POLLUTION IN

WATERS). WE SHOULD ALSO BE RESPONSIVE TO REQUESTS IN THE ATOMIC POLLUTION FIELD. END SUMMARY

2. EPA REPRESENTATIVES TAKEN TO APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SECTION, ATOMIC ENERGY BOARD, AND THE ADAR RESEARCH CENTER), DEVELOPMENT PLANNING MINISTRY, INTER-DEPARTMENTAL ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION, PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE, AS WELL AS ATEINSA. (OTHER OFFICIALS WITH WHOM APPOINTMENT REQUESTED WERE NOT AVAILABLE.)

3. MOST FREQUENTLY EXPRESSED SPANISH INTEREST WAS POLLUTION BY PULP AND PAPER INDUSTRY OF RIVERS. THIS PRIORITY STRONGLY AGREED ON BY MININD REPS. IN ADDITION, JEN (JUNTA DE ENERGIA NUCLEAR) WITH NEW TOP DIRECTION AND FACED WITH PUBLIC OPINION HOSTILE TO LARGE NUMBER OF NUCLEAR REACTORS PLANNED AND UNDER CONSTRUCTION WOULD BE WILLING EXCHANGE THERMAL AND RADIATION POLLUTION TECHNOLOGY. OTHER SPECIFIC POLLUTION CONTROL INTERESTS OF LESSER PRIORITY TO SPANISH INCLUDE THAT IN IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRIES, AND TANNERIES. AS WELL AS SOLID WASTE AND SEWAGE PROBLEMS PECULIAR TO AREAS WHERE TOURIST INFLUX TEMPORARILY DOUBLES POPULATION IN PEAK SEASON.

4. SPANISH PRIORITY IN STEPS TO IMPLEMENT PILOT PLANT PROJECT WOULD PUT FIRST VISITS BY SPANISH OFFICIALS TO EPA FOR PURPOSE OBTAINING DETAILED UNDERSTANDING THAT AGENCY'S ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS AND METHODS OF WRITING REGULATIONS. HOLDING POLLUTION CONTROL TECHNOLOGY SEMINARS IN SPAIN OF INTEREST TO SOME SPANISH OFFICIALS. HOWEVER, OTHERS BELIEVE THAT MOST OF THE MANY POLLUTION CONTROL SEMINARS ALREADY HELD IN THIS COUNTRY HAVE CONTRIBUTED LITTLE TO THE EXTENSIVE TECHNOLOGY ALREADY AVAILABLE HERE ON THAT TOPIC. IN THE EYES OF A FEW, MANY OF THEM HAVE AMOUNTED TO A RESTATEMENT OF THE OBVIOUS FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLIMBING ONTO THE FASHIONABLE ENVIRONMENT BANDWAGON. EPA REPRESENTATIVES, HOWEVER, TOOK EVERY OPPORTUNITY EMPHASIZE THE SUCCESS OF THEIR AGENCY'S PROGRAM IN THE UNITED STATES, AND THE LIMITATION OF ATTENDANCE TO TECHNICALLY QUALIFIED PERSONNEL DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE INDUSTRY CONCERNED. THIS CONCEPT

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PAGE 03 MADRID 05974 241203Z

MOST FAVORABLY RECEIVED IN ADARO, WITH ITS EXTENSIVE AND HIGHLY FAVORABLE EXPERIENCE WITH USG SCIENTIFIC BODIES.

5. EMBASSY BELIEVES IMPLEMENTATION OF AN EFFICIENT MODEL PROGRAM OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ON POLLUTION CONTROL INVOLVING A SUSTAINED THREE TO FIVE YEAR EFFORT COULD LEAD TO ONE MORE LONG TERM CONNECTION WHICH WOULD BENEFIT OUR OVERALL RELATIONS WITH SPAIN. AS WE SEE IT, BEST WAY ACCOMPLISH THIS IS

TO ARRANGE FOR TECHNICALLY QUALIFIED, ENGLISH SPEAKING GOS
OFFICIALS AND/OR INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES TO TRAVEL TO US
FOR THOROUGH FAMILIARIZATION WITH HOW EPA OPERATES, AND
ATTENDANCE POLLUTION CONTROL SEMINAR, PREFERABLY IN FIELD
PULP AND PAPER POLLUTION CONTROL. IT WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL
IN VIEW OUR ENRICHED URANIUM PROGRAM AND DESIRE MAINTAIN
OUR ALREADY STRONG INFLUENCE IN ATOMIC ENERGY MATTERS HERE,
FOR USG TO BE RESPONSIVE AS POSSIBLE TO JEN EXPRESSION OF
INTEREST IN INFORMATION ON THERMAL AND RADIATION POLLUTION
CONTROL.

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